

Introduced Version

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. ____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring Dr. Duncan N. P.
"Pat" Pritchett Jr.

**Breaux, Lubbers, Clark, Merritt,
Miller, Howard, Young R Michael,
Waltz**

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on

20053339

2005

SC 2028/DI 84+



SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring Dr. Duncan N. P. "Pat" Pritchett Jr.

Whereas, Dr. Duncan N. P. "Pat" Pritchett Jr. will retire from the Indianapolis Public School Corporation (IPS) after 35 years of dedicated service;

Whereas, Dr. Pritchett has served IPS in a variety of roles, including classroom teacher, principal, director of elementary education, chief of staff, and superintendent;

Whereas, Named as superintendent in December 1997, Dr. Pritchett headed the state's largest school system, with 6,000 employees serving more than 41,000 students in 78 schools;

Whereas, When Dr. Pritchett was appointed as superintendent, IPS was in crisis;

Whereas, Staff morale was low, community perceptions were negative, improvement in student achievement had stagnated, and IPS had suffered through several changes in superintendents;

Whereas, Dr. Pritchett's strong leadership helped to increase student achievement and refocus the district's priorities on instruction, beginning with a systemwide focus on reading;

Whereas, Under Dr. Pritchett's watchful eye, the district received a planning grant from the federal Department of Education to create Small Learning Communities in the



large comprehensive high schools, secured a \$250,000,000 bond issue without a single remonstrator to build six new elementary schools, upgrade science labs at the secondary level, and add air conditioning to the district's five traditional high schools, and was awarded a \$16,400,000 million grant from Lilly Endowment to support a K-12 educational transformation that will lead to smaller learning communities and targeted instruction for at-risk children;

Whereas, Dr. Pritchett has also provided staff training in technology that gives those who complete the program free computer hardware and software, and IPS is currently involved in an innovative program with the National Urban Alliance that has brought master teachers to IPS to provide hands-on staff development;

Whereas, Dr. Pritchett has formulated tough policies to ensure that student athletes are able to maintain an acceptable academic standard and that students behave respectfully toward each other and staff members while in school;

Whereas, Dr. Pritchett is an educational visionary who supports arts education, higher standards and accountability for students, teachers, and principals, and the continuation and expansion of the district's successful magnet and option programs;

Whereas, In addition to his duties as the leader of the state's largest school system, Dr. Pritchett is involved with many statewide associations, including the Indiana Urban Schools Association, and is a frequent speaker at local groups such as Rotary, Kiwanis, the Chamber of Commerce, and various neighborhood and civic organizations;

Whereas, Dr. Pritchett meets regularly with other Marion County superintendents and is recognized as a leader among his peers; Ball State University's School of Education named him Alumnus of the Year in 2003; and

Whereas, Dr. Pritchett is a man of vision and character who is admired and respected by his staff and students, and a man who has done an exceptional job at a time when an



exceptional leader was needed: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly
of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:*

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly thanks Dr. Duncan
2 N. P. "Pat" Pritchett Jr. for his years of dedicated service to the children
3 of Indianapolis

4 SECTION 2. That copies of this resolution be transmitted by the
5 Secretary of the Senate to Dr. Duncan N. P. "Pat" Pritchett Jr. and
6 Kelly E. Bentley, President of the Indianapolis Public School Board of
7 School Commissioners.

